

April 6, 2007

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During its 30 year history, the D.C. subway system has expanded and adapted to new technology, but one thing has remained constant-the Metro's hundreds of platforms and walkways have always been surfaced with high-quality tiles made in Summitville, Ohio.

When Summitville Tile President and Columbiana Co. Republican Party Chair Dave Johnson learned the Washington Metro Authority was considering a switch to a tile manufacturer in Argentina, he called Congressman Wilson for help.

Congressman Wilson did not hesitate. **"This isn't about Democrats or Republicans,"** said Congressman Wilson. **"This is about Ohio workers and fighting for their jobs. Preserving our jobs matters so much more than politics, and it was clear to me that I needed to take action."** Congressman Wilson made his case in a letter sent to Charles Deegan, Chairman of the Transit Authority Board, and John B. Catoe, the General Manager of the Transit Authority. In the letter, Congressman Wilson wrote:

"I believe that the nation's premier subway system ought to use American-made products whenever possible, and that the quality and beauty of these tiles has been proved beyond a doubt during their thirty years of service."

When he returns to Washington after the District Work Period, Congressman Wilson will also lead efforts to get a similar letter of support signed by the entire Ohio Congressional delegation.

"I'm very grateful for Congressman Wilson's help and dedication," said Mr. Johnson.

"This means so much to me and to Summitville's 250 workers."

Summitville Tile has served eastern Ohio since 1912.